

ACORN



The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario

A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

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Immediate Past President:	Peter John Stokes
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2nd Vice-President:	H. Walker
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FALL 1981

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario R Newsletter

EDITORIAL STAFF

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The Cover

Not the Prairies — but the highest point in Ontario: grain elevators and the 5.17 p.m. down train (or was it the 5.20, early as usual!) at Dundalk, population 1200, an agricultural community in Grey County, just off Highway 10 between Shelburne and Flesherton, notable for this handsome pair of utilitarian structures. The elevators appear to be contemporary and must have matched originally — additions and modifications have changed their appearance slightly. It is hard to recognize this centre as the highest in the Province — one approaches it through miles of an almost flat landscape reminiscent of the West, complete with sloughs, but here more generously supplied with farm woodlots and regenerating bush.

EDITORIAL

A Sense of Pride

So many of the beautiful old houses in our Ontario towns are still standing. Moreover, they are occupied, in many cases, by descendants of the original builders. And even if they are not, having changed hands several times, in many cases they are owned by a family that takes pride in keeping the old house, not only in good repair, but in adhering to the lines of its original style. The money, thought, and good taste used in this way not only show a sense of pride in ownership, but also pride in our heritage.

These old buildings were built not only as shelters, but were signatures of the times. They were stamped with the seal of their era, and as such are part of our history.

The people who felt an organization was needed to alert citizens to the desperate situation of some of our older buildings must also have a sense of pride when they note the work of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. Those people who were instrumental in starting the Conservancy in 1933, and the others who have continued the work, must also have a sense of pride in what has been accomplished. Yet, so much more needs to be done. One does get the feeling that a great load is being carried by a dedicated few. Hundreds of hours are being donated by trained experts to saving houses, buildings, and in fact, whole streetscapes. They are backed up by a small army of interested helpers.

ACORN plays its own very small part. The fact of its very existence should give us a sense of pride. It is up to the volunteer editors of the eight branches to look to their own sense of responsibility and carry out the job they promised to do. When a branch is not represented, the work of its members is not generally known. Some of the branch editors have been faithful, others, perhaps should polish up their sense of pride in a job well done, else ACORN could cease to exist.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What direction should our organization take in this period of our history — when there is far more interest in our Architectural Heritage than ever before, yet when we still see thoughtless destruction of important buildings such as the Wyndham Block in Guelph and the Firehall in Port Hope? On the one hand, we may feel gratified that our many years of effort — of crying in the wilderness — have borne fruit; on the other, the continuing losses would indicate that there is still no cause for complacency.

More important than our own feelings towards this situation, what has caused this change in the general attitude towards Conservation? If we can understand these changes and their causes, we may be better able to combat the losses we still see occurring.

The Council recently held a special meeting to discuss this and seek a direction for the Council. The interest in preservation — whether it be buildings, furniture, or paraphernalia — is widespread and has its roots in far wider and deeper concerns by our society than our particular desire to preserve our architecture. We should therefore be exploiting this general interest to increase everyone's understanding and appreciation of our environment.

The publishing of the Newburgh Monograph will be a step in this direction. The recent seminar held by the Toronto Branch on the practical problems of buying and restoring an old house is another approach. Perhaps such practical presentations, which have been well received, should be used to expose those attending to our concerns with threatened buildings and to show them preservation efforts worthy of examination and support. Let us use this current general interest to broaden awareness of our particular concerns. Further, we should be using this interest to effect by constructive review and criticism of current projects in the fields of architecture and landscape.

Since this will be my last President's Report, I have taken this opportunity to touch briefly on general concerns. I would also like to take the opportunity to say how much I have enjoyed my time serving you as President. I had many hopes and goals for my term and I regret that I have achieved so little. Nevertheless, the Council has diligently sought to serve the Conservancy and I appreciate the efforts of all the councillors, and of our executive secretary, Margaret Wulff. It is my parting hope that the Conservancy will continue to grow in strength and influence.

NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST from the Branches

PORT HOPE

The Annual General Meeting of the Port Hope Branch was held at Penryn Park on Thursday, September 24th, 1981. The weather cooperated for an outdoor barbeque which was a great success with approximately sixty people attending. At 8:00 p.m., the business meeting convened indoors.

Outgoing President, Anita Blackwood, gave the President's year-end report of the Port Hope Branch's activities which included last year's Historic House Tour, the downtown A.C.O. Paint Project (see ACORN VI, 1) and the final stages of the restoration of the Russell-Smith Block (also see ACORN VI, 1). The Port Hope Branch has had an extremely busy and successful year with a substantial and rewarding increase in public support and recognition of the Branch's worthwhile efforts.

The new Executive for the 1981-82 year was announced. They are as follows:

<i>President</i>	A. K. Sculthorpe
<i>Past President</i>	Anita Blackwood
<i>Vice-President</i>	Nancy Redner
<i>Secretary</i>	Frankie Liberty
<i>Treasurer</i>	Cathy Moore

Board of Directors:

John Burns	Tom Long
Wilfred Day	Mary Ellen Chapple
Helen Bogay	Donald Scott
Paul Wilson	Jane Staunton
Roger Kirkpatrick	

Incoming President, A. K. Sculthorpe, gave a brief and positive summation of the Branch's goals for the upcoming year.

House Tour

The Port Hope Branch of the A.C.O. held its annual Historic House Tour on Saturday, October 3rd, 1981. Approximately six hundred people attended this most popular and successful event. On the tour this year were The Bluestone (1834), The Cone (1858), Dunain (1857), St. Mark's Anglican Church (1822), 15 Baldwin Street (c1853), 15 Julia Street (1852), and Canada House (1822). Picnic lunches were available at Penryn Park where tea was also served in the afternoon. The great variety in architectural detail and interior decoration of the houses on the tour led to an extremely successful and well-received event. The Port Hope Branch has adopted the policy of holding its annual Historic House Tour on the first Saturday of October so mark your calendars now for next year's tour!

1981-82 Program

October — On Thursday, October 29th at Penryn Park, Tony Jenkins of Westport, Ontario will be speaking on "The Restoration of Older Homes". Mr. Jenkins, an antique dealer and conservationist, is a very knowledgeable and skilled speaker and this talk and slideshow should be a popular event in the October calendar. The presentation will begin at 8:00 p.m. Admission price for A.C.O. members is \$1.00 and \$2.00 for non-members.

November — On Thursday, November 26th at Penryn Park, Caroline Carver, Toronto, will be

speaking on the subject of her very popular book, **Canadian Christmas Book** (Collins, 1975), a fascinating compendium of Christmas folklore, traditions and habits. The presentation will commence at 8:00 p.m. Admission \$1.00 for A.C.O. members and \$2.00 for non-members.

December — President's Wine and Cheese, coffee, tea, and cake party, Sunday, December 20th, 4-9:30 p.m.

January — Howard Walker, Architect, will be speaking on "Energy Conservation in Older Homes", at the Public Library, at 8 o'clock, Jan. 28.

February — On Thurs., February 25th, Michael J. McCarthy, Department of Fine Art, University of Toronto, will give a presentation entitled "The Country House Portrayed", a discussion of the portrayal of house and landscape in 18th century England. Dr. McCarthy studied the history of art at Cambridge University and later took his doctorate in the subject at the Courtauld Institute of Art, London. He is currently Professor of Art History at the University of Toronto.

Also in February, the Branch is planning to offer another series of lectures similar to last year's popular course given by Peter Stokes — "From Cellar to Attic". This year's series will be on landscaping and gardening for older homes. Now that we have all, no doubt, completed the restoration of our houses it is time to go to work in the garden! More details about this exciting series in the next issue of ACORN.

March and April speakers are yet to be confirmed as to date and location. Details will be in the next issue of ACORN.

The second printing of the Port Hope Branch's popular pamphlet on Port Hope, **Walk Today With Yesterday**, was completed in September. It includes a map and expanded historical and architectural descriptions of the downtown streets and buildings. For complimentary copies of this most useful and attractive booklet write to Frankie Liberty, Secretary Port Hope Branch A.C.O., 16 Ross Street, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 1J2.

For copies of the extremely useful booklet, **Architectural Terms**, also produced by the Port Hope Branch, write to The Editor, ACORN, 86 Augusta Street, Port Hope, Ontario. Single copies are \$1.00 each and 75¢ each for orders of twenty or more.

TORONTO REGION

On September 20th our fall programme got under way with a very popular walking tour. 120 members toured the King Edward Hotel which has just reopened under new management. The main lobby has been restored to its former grandeur, as has the main dining room, the Victoria Room. This room was "designated" by the Toronto Historical Board because of its plaster ceiling. The group left the hotel to walk through downtown Toronto to the site of the New Massey Hall. The Vice Chairman of the New Massey Hall, Arnold Edinborough, was the tour guide. Because of the number of people Mr. Edinborough very kindly took two separate groups, a most gallant effort and one for which we were most grateful.

Following the tours tea was served at the King Edward Hotel.

October 21st, at 8:00 p.m., our guest speaker will be Deborah St. George Butterfield, a graduate of the School Of Landscape Design of the University of Virginia. She is currently lecturing in the History of landscape design at the University of Toronto and at the University of Guelph. Her subject will be Landscape Design, Form and Comfort.

On November 25th William Dendy, Author of *Lost Toronto*, and lecturer in the history of architecture at the School of Architecture at the University of Toronto, will present an evening of *The Masseys and Their Architects* part 2. Mr. Dendy is a member of the programme committee and the executive of the Toronto Region Branch. In May he presented part 1 of the series. It was a most informative evening, a lively presentation, and well illustrated with slides from the speaker's collection.

December 6th will see our annual Christmas Party. This year it will be held at the Grange at the Art Gallery of Ontario. High tea will be served in the ballroom of the Grange from 4:30 'til 6:30. Tickets will be available. For further information call Anna McCoy at 924-6727.

Future plans include a wide angle look at the Heritage and Conservation movement — an attempt to discover who else is involved and how, A visiting lecturer from the Architectural Historians of Western New York to give us some background for our spring trip, a May weekend trip to Rochester, New York, and a public seminar to follow up on the Old House seminar which was received so well last spring.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE



Annual Meeting

The council chamber of the City Hall was the scene of this year's annual meeting. Guest speaker, Mr. Scott Little, gave an illustrated talk, featuring the buildings in Cambridge which he researched during the summer that he worked for Cambridge LACAC. He concentrated on less well-known houses, and gave a most interesting presentation. Another feature of the evening was a display of paintings of buildings in the Cambridge area done by a local artist, May Stewart. The main business of the meeting was the election of the Board of Directors. This followed immediately after the presentation of reports by the president and the treasurer. It was learned with regret that two members of the Board were not able to continue to serve, one of those being the Treasurer, David Ross, and the other David Hysinger. The slate presented by the nominating committee was elected by acclamation. The new Board is: Don McKay, President; Bill Barlow, Past President; Cynthia Dobbie, Vice-President; Lucille Douglas, Secretary; David Hopps, Treasurer; and members John Bell, Frank Bernhardt, Kay Caldwell, Edie Halpenny, Katherine Hebblethwaite, Betty Law, Gerry Musselman, Tom Titson, David Roelofson, Pat Rosebrugh, Harry Rossdeutscher, and Joanne Smart. The evening ended with refreshments and conversation.

Heritage Canada Community Service Award

We are delighted that Heritage Canada has recently honoured a former president of Heritage Cambridge, Gerald Musselman. A Heritage Canada Community Service Award has been presented to him in recognition of the great contribution he has made to this area not only in encouraging the preservation of fine old buildings, but in making the community aware of the need to protect its unique character. Gerry has worked hard to make the citizens realize that building high-rises near the riverbank would completely change the atmosphere of the town, dwarfing the old skyline of mellow stone buildings and church spires. Instances of his services to the preservation of Cambridge's heritage are many. Though he is quick to call it the result of a "team effort", Preston Public School would never have been saved without Gerry. The old school is now a delightful complex of apartments for senior citizens. Its handsome stone façade, facing Central Park, is a dignified landmark in the town.

At present Gerry is helping the Little Theatre in its efforts to found a new theatre in one of our finest stone buildings, the old B & W Pattern Works on the riverbank.

House Tour

The Heritage Cambridge House Tour was on Saturday, October 17th. Four lovely old houses and two recently renovated buildings provided an interesting variety for people to view. Coffee was provided in the morning at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce on Main Street, one of the buildings on the tour. In the afternoon a delicious tea was served at Trinity Church. Both were included in the price of the ticket. The houses comprised a delightful stone cottage of 1862, a typical early stone farmhouse which has recently been skilfully renovated and enlarged, an imposing Georgian country house, and a beautifully restored 1834 house built in the Waterloo County style. The Preston School Apartments were also on view, and people were able to see the imaginative way in which pleasant and individual apartments have been fitted into the former school building.

City of Cambridge Official Plan

A new city plan is being prepared in Cambridge with an expanded Heritage Conservation Policy included. The draft plan has been under consideration for some time and Heritage Cambridge has been invited to submit comments. We are delighted that the city is becoming more conscious of the need to protect its heritage. Cambridge has many fine old buildings, and some districts where the buildings are significant because of their relationship to each other. All add to the distinctive character of the city, and we hope the official plan will make their preservation possible.

HURON COUNTY

Under the sponsorship of the Seaforth and Goderich L.A.C.A.C. groups, a seminar was held at the Van Egmond House, Seaforth, on April 25th. Dorothy Wallace of Goderich and Wyn McLean of Seaforth had arranged a program of speakers who explained the aims and functions as well as the problems of L.A.C.A.C's. Nicholas Hill, local architect, outlined what type of buildings should be preserved. This was followed by an informative question period.

Representatives from Goderich and Seaforth, Glen Carey and Walter Armes respectively, re-

ported on accomplishments and failures in their towns.

After lunch in the authentically restored kitchen served by members of the Van Egmond Foundation and a tour of displays on the 2nd floor, a film, Main Street, was enjoyed. Mrs. Doris Batkin, representing Huron County Historical Society, brought an outline of their aims and achievements. Miss Helen Owen from Bayfield reported on their monthly meetings at which they have interesting speakers. Dorothy Wallace brought news of the Huron County Branch of the Architectural Conservancy as well as Council meetings she had recently attended.

Gary Davidson, Huron County Planner, gave a report of the Designation Plan for the Goderich Square which is nearing completion.

Although the attendance was disappointing those attending felt it was very rewarding and it is hoped to have another seminar in the fall.

In May, Huron County Branch met in the restored Old Town Hall, Bayfield, at which Nick Hill was the lecturer. By means of his own watercolours, sketches and slides, he traced the history of York, England where he spent six months at York University on a course on the History of Restoration. From the beginning of the Roman era, through the Danish, homes, castles, ruins, streets and even trees have been preserved and the medieval influence is still very evident. Mr. Hill has also written and illustrated a 133 page book entitled "Historic Streetscapes of Huron County".

Clinton Town Council has agreed to appoint a committee to reform their L. A. C. A. C. Mrs. Heather Hunter is chairman, and she has asked Council to approve the designation of six buildings as historically valuable. They will then be protected from demolition or major design changes. The Town Hall, Library and Library Park have already been designated.

Goderich Town Council has approved the nomination of Mrs. Dorothy Wallace for a Heritage Canada Award. From the beginnings of the "Save the Jail Committee" she has been constantly encouraging the important buildings, (historical and architecturally important) to be preserved. She has personally bought three buildings due for demolition, two of which are restored to usefulness. She has also been President of the Huron County Branch for the past three years and on the Board of the Huron Historic Jail.

NORTH WATERLOO REGION

The Joseph Schneider House

by Kenneth McLaughlin,
Chairman, Joseph Schneider House
Board of Management

On Sunday, Sept. 13, the Joseph Schneider House, one of the Province's most recent historical restoration projects, was officially opened. The Schneider House, a large "Mennonite Georgian" structure was built in 1820. It was Joseph Schneider's second home, as his family outgrew their original log cabin, and has long been recognized as one of Waterloo County's most significant historic sites. The restoration to an 1856 date — at which time the original rough cast had been covered with weather boarding and the cornice added — was directed by John I. Rempel and supervised by the local firm of Rieder,



JOSEPH SCHNEIDER HOUSE, 1820

Hymmen & Lobban. As well, an archaeological dig was conducted on the site as part of the restoration, turning up a great number of glass shards, pieces of pottery and tableware, which will serve to assist in interpreting the social life of the Schneider family. The restoration has taken nearly four years since the original feasibility study was completed in 1977. It has, however, been a very interesting project and has engendered a great deal of comment about the architecture of the Waterloo region. Since opening its doors to the public on June 30, — the anniversary of Joseph Schneider's arrival in Upper Canada —

more than five thousand visitors have toured the house.

As a fine example of Pennsylvania-German architecture transplanted in Upper Canada at the beginning of the 19th century, we are certain that the Schneider House will be of interest to Acorn's many readers. The Schneider House is owned by the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation and is open Wednesdays to Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and it has currently on display one of the most significant collections of pre-1850 Waterloo County antiques ever gathered together.

Branch Activities

On October 4th, 1981, the North Waterloo Region Branch held its first house tour. Entitled "Petunia Walk I" this featured the Victoria Park area of Kitchener, the only section of old Berlin that looks much as it did 80 years ago. Victoria Park was originally part of the Schneider farm. The neighbourhood was developed around the park with a mixture of large and more modest homes in keeping with a tradition of manufacturers and workers living next to each other close to their institutions of work which rimmed the south side of the neighbourhood.

Over the years development has been vigorous on all sides of the neighbourhood, yet, despite its proximity to the city core, the neighbourhood has remained intact with its Victorian street-scapes and general ambiance.



JOSEPH SCHNEIDER HOUSE, 1820

The walking tour included four houses plus the newly restored Schneider House, where tea was available. Each of the houses open to the public

was marked by a wrought iron standard filled with petunias. The tour was well attended despite a little rain in the late afternoon and a competing event elsewhere in the region.

This fall the branch will be offering a series of six talks on consecutive Thursday evenings, from October 22nd to November 26th. The topics are as follows:

- a survey lecture on architectural styles in Ontario by Bob and Marg Rowell;
- a session on antiques and collectables hosted by a well known antique dealer;
- a talk by Owen Scott on Ontario landscape gardening and ornamental gardens;
- a talk by Ron Cascaden describing one man's experience of a major private home restoration in Kitchener;
- Michael Bird, co-author of a newly published book on German decorative folk arts in October (A Splendid Harvest; published by Van Nostrand Reinhold) will discuss the Mennonite folk arts of Waterloo County;
- Wendy Collishaw and Bert Williams, displaying and describing the research and artwork that produced their 1982 heritage calendar. Bert Williams' painting will be on display.

The annual Christmas house tour and party is scheduled for December 15th.

The branch is again planning to celebrate Heritage Day (February 15, 1982) by offering a programme of films on heritage topics.

NEWS FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

HERITAGE WINNIPEG CORPORATION

Heritage Winnipeg Launches National Campaign for Income Tax Amendments

Recognizing the critical need for some form of financial incentives to reverse the trend of reducing our architectural heritage to rubble, Heritage Winnipeg has committed itself to a national campaign to persuade the Federal Government of Canada to amend the Income Tax Act in order to promote the preservation of designated historic buildings.

They have been soliciting the support of heritage organizations from across the country in the form of letters to the Minister of Finance and the Minister of the Environment. In support of these efforts, on January 22, 1981, Heritage Winnipeg sent a delegation to Ottawa to meet with the officials responsible for this cause.

The value of amending the Income Tax Act

has been proven by the American Experience, to the extent that their Tax Reform Act of 1976 has been extended to 1984. In the preface to **Tax Incentives for Historic Preservation** Rev. Ed. 1981, Michael Ainslie, President of the National Trust for Preservation states: "the Tax Reform Act of 1976 has been the single most effective recent piece of legislation affecting historic preservation and building re-use . . . these tax incentives have the ability to reach far more buildings worthy of preservation, and to do so more efficiently and effectively, than grants and other forms of direct government assistance."

Heritage Winnipeg will continue to press for amendments to the Income Tax Act and seeks your support.

HERITAGE CANADA ANNUAL HERITAGE AWARDS

Congratulations to Dorothy Wallace and Anthony Adamson. Mrs. Wallace received a Community Service Award for exceptional local contributions in the field of heritage conservation. It will be remembered that Mrs. Wallace bought the former Polley's Livery Stable when it was threatened with demolition. She then proceeded to raise funds to turn the place into a 300 seat theatre. This is only one of her many projects to save heritage buildings.

The Gabrielle Leger Medal was won by Anthony Adamson, professor, restoration architect, town planner, consultant, author, director of Ontario Arts Council, and one time Councillor and Reeve of the Township of Toronto Gore. Mr. Adamson was the first secretary to the newly formed Architectural Conservancy of Ontario in 1933.

HERITAGE OTTAWA

"Ottawa — The Capital of Canada"

The sign of a good book is one that is easy to read (looking up words means reading the dictionary not the book), has an interesting plot, and is replete with original facts.

"Ottawa — The Capital of Canada" by Shirley E. Woods Jr. is just such a book.

Mr. Woods presents little-known facts about our history — such as the date of the arrival of the first white man at the site of the City of Ottawa.

In 1610, Etienne Brûlé was sent by Samuel de Champlain to live with the Huron Indians for the

winter and learn their language. Champlain had expected great things from the scoundrel Brûlé but was greatly disappointed when he turned his back on the colony and chose to live an irresponsible life (as short as it was) amongst the savages.

"Ottawa" is one of the "Romance of Canadian Cities Series" from Doubleday and is available from most bookstores and libraries.

Notes from "The Archivist"

The Public Archives reports in its publication "The archivist" (Sept./Oct.) that the de Ramezay family papers will be available soon for research purposes.

The papers, dating back to the sixteenth century, contain a wealth of original material relating to Canadian personages and were acquired by the Archives from the Bellanger bookstore in Nantes, France.

The de Ramezay family papers will be micro-filmed and available for research purposes at the Public Archives or through interlibrary loan.

Also reported in the Archivist, the largest purchase of early Canadian maps has recently been made by the National Map Collection of the Archives. The 700 maps and atlases and 800 related books are the well-known private Canadiana Collection of the late Dr. Alexander E. MacDonald, a distinguished Canadian ophthalmologist who practised in Toronto until his death in 1977.

The collection focuses on maps of Canada and parts of the country (250 maps), but includes also about 100 general maps of North America, 50 of the Western Hemisphere, and 90 of the whole world.

Virtually all the major cartographers of the world whose maps show Canada in any way are represented.

AROUND AND ABOUT:

Happenings in Ontario

AMELIASBURGH

We have reported on the possibilities for the Old School in Ameliasburgh (Roblin's Mills) before; a sketch appeared in Acorn V - 1

But the latest picture shows the sad fate which befell the building earlier this Fall after it was being used as the headquarters of the Seventh Town Historical Society. Vandalism is blamed for the gutting of the building by fire which destroyed some of the Society's records and artifacts and burnt out the roof structure.

The photograph shows the surviving "tin" roof flapping in the wind, rising and falling like a great tent, the belfry, still intact, rocking gently to and fro.

The walls were reported to have been little damaged fortunately and were sound enough to permit rebuilding. Since then the silver lining to the cloud: a generous offer of assistance from



OLD SCHOOL - AMELIASBURGH
Gutted by fire

Cashway Lumber in Belleville, Manager Alfred Cairns, to provide a new roof at cost. And the Society now owns the building and will gradually rehabilitate and continue to use it to preserve it as a landmark of that historic community.

If you wish to support this worthy cause, the Society would be very grateful for your help: please send your contributions c/o Mr. John Wannamaker, Secretary, Seventh Town Historical Society, R.R. #1, Consecon, Ontario K0K 1T0.



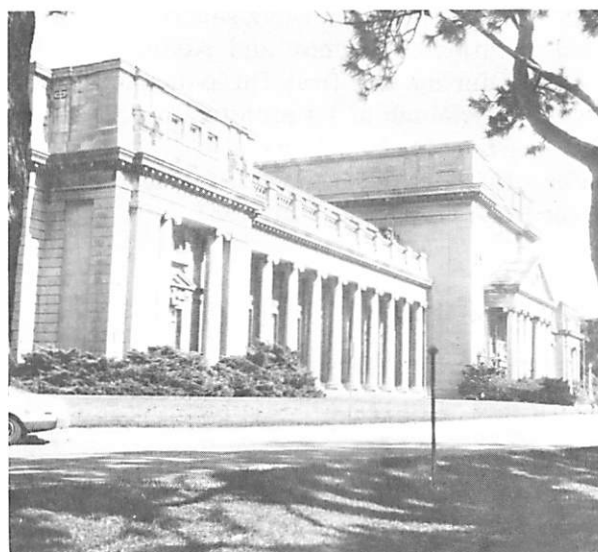
UNITED CHURCH - CONSECON

CONSECON

— "And the finishing touch they admired so much was my fan, which I always kept handy" — to quote our favourite Canadian "Lady Windermere", Bea Lillie. Here the weathervane, barely visible against a bright sky, is being placed on the steeple of the United Church, an early 19th century Consecon, Prince Edward County building, now "conserved" (or is it "pickled"?) in aluminum cladding.

NIAGARA FALLS

Beaux Arts splendour in the 1906 generating station above the Falls — utility is gloriously masked by the frozen pageantry of Edwardian times. Our current generation is asking did the Modern Movement thaw it — or spoil it forever encouraging only mouldy versions of the cheese-cake to satisfy nostalgic yearnings.



1906 GENERATING STATION - NIAGARA FALLS

PORT HOPE

The Port Hope LACAC has now published the study they initiated to record buildings of architectural and/or historical significance which lie within the boundaries of the proposed Heritage Conservation District.

The symmetry of style and compact nature of the downtown streetscape leading up to the varied and architecturally interesting residential buildings of upper Walton Street deem this area worthy of attention and preservation.

Copies of this study are \$5.00 each.. Contact

Mrs. B. Chapple, Chairman LACAC, Town Hall, Port Hope.

THE NEWBURGH MONOGRAPH

The Board of Directors of the Ontario Heritage Foundation has awarded The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario a grant of \$9,000.00 to assist with the costs to publish a book on the history of the Village of Newburgh through its buildings.

The Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario created to assist and encourage the preservation of the province's heritage and culture.

Dr. Peter John Stokes, one of Canada's foremost restoration architects and a noted author, conceived the project and undertook to supervise and edit the work which was carried out by Mr. Tom Cruickshank with the assistance of Mr. Robert Heaslip, both landscape architects. Newburgh is one of the very early settled areas in the united counties of Lennox and Addington which prospered during the first three-quarters of the 19th century. Much of its architecture from these years has remained unchanged.

For further information: Wentworth D. Walker 921-7479 October 21, 1981.

TO ALL LACACS

Prepared for the Prince Edward County LACAC
Significance with respect to a building

A building may be **historically significant** by reason of its association with an historic event, whether national, provincial or local in importance or with a personage connected with it by way of birth, residence, activity or death. Its connection with the work of a specific builder or architect may also be a factor. It may be historically significant by reason of its age, as being the oldest structure or one of the oldest buildings in the area. However age in itself is not necessarily a significant attribute.

A building may be **architecturally significant** because of its design, either as a representative example of local building exhibiting a preponderance of its original details and characteristics, or as a superior design of considerable architectural merit and a peer example of building development and local, regional or national style. Although a building might have historical significance in that it is the work of a known or noted

designer or contractor it would have architectural significance also if it constituted a superior work of that particular hand. Buildings may be architecturally interesting as representative of typical local building types related to the community's historic development or as part of a cohesive group, streetscape or neighbourhood in which their loss would be felt, but might not be considered significant unless they are highly expressive of their type of critical examples by virtue of their key position.

Architectural significance may be related to a building which is no longer in its original condition, but has evolved over the years into a more complex or somewhat altered state as a result of additions and changes. Examples are the Macaulay House in Picton, Ontario, now restored to show certain alterations of the 1850s and the Grange, in Toronto, where the house was considerably improved from its original arrangement, to include grander reception rooms. The Niagara Apothecary in Niagara-on-the-Lake is architecturally significant for its Italianate shopfront and interior detail and fittings of 1966, not for the remnants of its earlier structure probably dating from the 1830s or before.

Peter John Stokes
Consulting Restoration Architect

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Opera Houses and Theatres of Ontario

Robert Fairfield, well known as the architect of the Stratford Festival Theatre, is undertaking research for the writing of a section of the history of theatre in Ontario to do with buildings accommodating the performing arts. If you have any information of surviving or lost theatres, opera houses, concert halls and assembly rooms built, or even converted from other uses, prior to World War I (ie. 1914) a note to Mr. Fairfield at Box 488, Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0, would be greatly appreciated. Please let him know if you have any printed material or illustrations on hand or if you can suggest a source of further information and the whereabouts of photographs, plans, drawings and other graphic copy. We note that the task is a tough one needing and deserving every support and assistance, for so many of these favourite places of entertainment have been lost since cinemas supplanted them. Many lurk unnoticed in our smaller towns and even villages across the Province, erected in more generous times when shows travelled across the country-

side for the public enjoyment, and people participated in the community spirit, an activity since taken over by sports in the arena and passive pursuits like T.V. from the armchair.

ONTARIO'S EARLY COURT HOUSES

Outposts of Justice

Symbols of Order

Centres of Activity

A reception was held at St. Lawrence Hall, in Toronto, on September 23, sponsored jointly by The Ontario Heritage Foundation and the Osgoode Society, to mark the opening of the historical exhibition of Ontario's Early Court Houses. The opening remarks were made by Mr. Robbins Elliott, Vice-Chairman of the Ontario Heritage Foundation, followed by greetings from Mr. John White, Chairman of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Mr. Brendan O'Brien, Q.C., President of The Osgoode Society spoke next, mentioning the two year old Ontario Historical Society and the history of biographies of law makers. The Hon. R. Roy McMurtry, Q.C. spoke next, and introduced Mr. Anthony Adamson, architect and author, the speaker. Mr. Adamson, in his usual amusing way, mentioned the earliest court room in 1824, stressing the number of assault and battery charges which provided the main business of those early courts. He lightened the procedures by his two stories of those early days. Mr. Douglas McCullough spoke in place of the Hon. Reuben Baetz, Minister of Culture and Recreation who was unable to attend.

The announcement that Mr. Adamson had received the Heritage Canada award for preservation was received with its well-deserved applause for the recipient.

Sketches and early architects' drawings from the Archives were displayed.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting took place on November 7, in the upstairs hall at Dundurn Castle, Hamilton, at 10:30 a.m. Bill Moffet, the president, was in the chair.

Bob Allen, president of the Hamilton Branch, welcomed those present, and spoke of the Niagara Escarpment Commission asking all present to be alive to the issue.

The minutes were adopted as circulated, and the treasurer's financial statement brought a

welcome note as this year was an increase of receipts over expenses.

Wentworth Walker gave a brief explanation of the Newburgh Monograph and its marketing arrangements.

A. K. Sculthorpe spoke on the mini campaigns and explained about sustaining memberships.

Marion Garland mentioned that the deadlines for the branch editors were Feb. 15, July 15, and Oct. 15. Out of the eight editors, only five had sent copy for this issue. Mrs. Garland also mentioned several money-making suggestions for the Conservancy.

The president, Bill Moffet, gave his annual report, and spoke of the Ontario Heritage Foundation's project to purchase and restore a building to be used as a heritage house where different associations can meet.

Geoffrey A. Brooks's firm was appointed auditor for the coming year.

Patricia Rosebrugh gave the slate of officers for the year 1981-1982 as follows:

President: Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe, 1st Vice-President: Mr. Howard Walker, 2nd Vice-President: Mr. Nicholas Hill, 3rd Vice-President: Mrs. Donna Baker, Treasurer: Mr. Robert MacMillan, Secretary: Miss Isabel Coulthard, Past President: Mr. William J. Moffet, Members-at-Large: Mr. Peter John Stokes, Mr. John H. Reckett.

A tour of the castle was enjoyed and later a snack luncheon was provided by the ladies of Christ's Church Cathedral.

Marion Walker Garland

ACO'S PUBLICATIONS

Toronto Region Branch

All Roads Lead to Dundas \$2.50

Tips on Home Maintenance in Canada \$2.00

Plain & Fancy (Vaughan, Markham, King, Gwillimbury Townships) \$2.00

Eden Smith, Architect 1858-1949 \$3.50

Poster of Don Jail Doorway \$2.00

Port Hope Branch

Architectural Terms Booklet \$1.00

Walk Today with Yesterday. Walking Tour of downtown Port Hope and description of other buildings. Free.

STOP PRESS

New Conservancy Bookmarks

Be sure to ask the president of your branch for the new Conservancy bookmarks. They make excellent little birthday, Christmas, or house

guest presents. The sale of these bookmarks will make money for the Council and for each branch, and provide an excellent way to advertise our name. Sell them at all your meetings, house tours, and lectures. Give them to all your friends. Enclose one in your letters. Remember, with each one you buy you are helping to save a house!

We are receiving requests by mail for copies of ACORN, and also requests to be put on our subscription list. These letters have been answered stating that ACORN is not for sale and suggesting that the writers join the nearest ACO branch and receive three copies a year.



If you wish to know the address of your nearest branch, write the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, 191 College St., Toronto, Ont. M5T 1P7.



We are always glad to receive pictures which accompany articles. If you wish these pictures returned, please send a stamped, addressed envelope. Ed.

Please send any change of address to your branch secretary and also to Mrs. Margaret Wulff, A.C.O., 191 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1P7. In this way it can be put on the master mailing list.

ACO's Address: 191 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1P7

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